

Application No. 09/838,346
Reply to Office Action of 08/25/2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1. Remarks on the Amendments:

In view of the rejections of record, all claims have been cancelled in favor of new Claims 14 thru 22 herewith. Said new claims focus upon the dictation recorder 34 (see Figs. 2 and 3) as the characterizing feature of Applicant's inventive system.

With regard to this aspect, only original Claim 8 had been directed thereto. At Page 5, first paragraph, of the Official Action, original Claim 8 was rejected in that "Chen discloses a system further comprising means for playing-back or recording conversation from said speaker means, means for playing back or selectably recording of audio tape, compact disk or radio originated material, and means for playing-back or selectably recording driver and/or passenger-originated memorandum." However, Chen, at none of the portions indicated by the Examiner, namely, the Summary, Column 2, or Column 3, actually teach any system which is analogous to Applicant's use of a dictation recorder within a vehicle dash panel for use during driving. For Example, in the summary of the invention, at Col. 2, Lines 12-14, Chen simply refers to an "automobile acoustic unit [which] includes an audio source for generating audio signals...and a circuit for controlling and selecting the playback of audio signals from the audio source..." Therein, the contemplation is that of an audio source such as an audio tape, CD, or RF

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radio, not a passenger engaged in the process of dictation, playback or editing thereof. Similarly, in Col. 3, Lines 48-54, Chen refers to an "acoustic unit [including] a plurality of general press keys 41 a CD playback outlet 42 which through etcetera, CD may be inserted, a radio tuner, a control panel 43, provided on a panel 411 of the body 410, all of which are conventional components that can be found in conventional automobile acoustic units." Clearly, this portion of Chen does not describe any system, structure or means which is analogous to a dictation recorder in combination with a vehicle-panel having the limitations set forth in Applicant's new independent Claim 14. In fact, at no part of Chen is any structure or means described that might be deemed analogous in any respect to the functions associated with a dictation recorder, namely, the functions of play, rewind, stop, pause, and cassette ejection which are associated therewith. Accordingly, Applicant's claims as amended, also define over Watts, cited by the Examiner, and Yazaki which relates solely to a radiotelephone, that is, a precursor to the modern cell phone.

The Applicant has also made appropriate revision to the Specification in order to avoid use of the trademark dictaphone, and deleted the term "cell phone" in favor of the term dictation recorder, and has presented a new Abstract of the Disclosure.

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Response to the objections of the drawings

With respect to the drawing rejection, Page 2, Paragraph 1 of the Specification, Applicant notes that the reference numeral 28, which is the cell phone, appears on Pages 9 through 13 of the Specification.

Applicant requests a two-month extension of time within which to respond to the outstanding Official Action. The applicable fee, for a Small Entity, is to be charged to PTO Deposit Account \$210.00.

In view of the above, all rejections and objections of record are believed to have been satisfactorily responded to and, as such, the early allowance of this application is believed to be indicated.

Respectfully submitted
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